

Senate File 2050 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2050

BY BRASE

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the applicability of motor vehicle size,
2 weight, and load limitations to law enforcement vehicles.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.453, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
2 2016, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. Fire apparatus and law enforcement vehicles.

4 Sec. 2. Section 321.471, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
5 2016, is amended to read as follows:

6 a. Local authorities with respect to a highway under their
7 jurisdiction may by ordinance or resolution prohibit the
8 operation of vehicles upon the highway or impose restrictions
9 as to the weight of vehicles to be operated upon the highway
10 for a total period of not to exceed ninety days in any one
11 calendar year, whenever the highway by reason of deterioration,
12 rain, snow, or other climatic conditions will be seriously
13 damaged or destroyed unless the use of vehicles on the
14 highway is prohibited or the permissible weights reduced.
15 The ordinance or resolution shall not apply to implements of
16 husbandry as defined in [section 321.1](#), implements of husbandry
17 loaded on hauling units for transporting the implements to
18 locations for repair, or fire apparatus, law enforcement
19 vehicles, and road maintenance equipment owned by, under lease
20 to, or used in the performance of a contract with a state or
21 local authority.

22 Sec. 3. Section 321.471, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code
23 2016, is amended to read as follows:

24 a. Upon a finding that a bridge or culvert does not
25 meet established standards set forth by state and federal
26 authorities, local authorities may by ordinance or resolution
27 impose limitations for an indefinite period of time on
28 the weight of vehicles upon bridges or culverts located on
29 highways under their sole jurisdiction. The limitations shall
30 be effective when signs giving notice of the limitations
31 are erected. The ordinance or resolution shall not apply
32 to implements of husbandry loaded on hauling units for
33 transporting the implements to locations for purposes of
34 repair or to fire apparatus, law enforcement vehicles, or road
35 maintenance equipment owned by, under lease to, or used in the

1 performance of a contract with a state or local authority.

2 Sec. 4. Section 321.474, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2016, are
3 amended to read as follows:

4 1. The department shall have authority, as granted to
5 local authorities, to determine by resolution and to impose
6 restrictions as to the weight of vehicles, except implements of
7 husbandry as defined in [section 321.1](#), implements of husbandry
8 loaded on hauling units for transporting the implements to
9 locations for repair, and fire apparatus, law enforcement
10 vehicles, and road maintenance equipment owned by, under
11 lease to, or used in the performance of a contract with a
12 state or local authority, operated upon any highway under
13 the jurisdiction of the department for a definite period of
14 time not to exceed twelve months. The restrictions shall be
15 effective when signs giving notice of the restrictions and
16 the expiration date of the restrictions are erected upon the
17 affected highway or portion of highway.

18 2. Upon a finding that a bridge or culvert does not
19 meet established standards set forth by state and federal
20 authorities, the department may impose, by resolution,
21 restrictions for an indefinite period of time on the weight of
22 vehicles operated upon bridges or culverts located on highways
23 under its jurisdiction. The restrictions shall be effective
24 when signs giving notice of the restrictions are erected. The
25 restrictions shall not apply to implements of husbandry loaded
26 on hauling units for transporting the implements to locations
27 for purposes of repair or to fire apparatus, law enforcement
28 vehicles, or road maintenance equipment owned by, under lease
29 to, or used in the performance of a contract with a state or
30 local authority.

31 EXPLANATION

32 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
33 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

34 Current law provides that fire apparatus, certain road
35 maintenance equipment, certain implements of husbandry, and

1 certain construction equipment are exempt from motor vehicle
2 size, weight, and load limitations and the permit requirements
3 of Code chapter 321E. This bill expands that provision to also
4 exempt law enforcement vehicles. The bill also provides that
5 motor vehicle weight restrictions imposed by local authorities
6 and the department of transportation shall not apply to law
7 enforcement vehicles.